1 MAYER BROWN LLP JOHN NADOLENCO (SBN 181128) 2 jnadolenco@mayerbrown.com LISA W. CORNEHL (SBN 232733) 3 lcornehl@mayerbrown.com 350 South Grand Avenue, 25th Floor 4 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1503 Telephone: (213) 229-9500 5 Facsimile: (213) 625-0248 6 Attorneys for Defendant AT&T MOBILITY LLC 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 DONALD SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of 12 himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated, 13 Plaintiffs, 14 ٧. 15 AT&T, INC. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and 16 DOES 1 to 10, 17 Defendants. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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CLERK US THETETOT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



Case No.

BTM RBB

Cal. State Court Case No. 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL

DEFENDANT AT&T MOBILITY LLC'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF **ACTION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§** 1331, 1332, 1441 AND 1446

(FEDERAL QUESTION AND DIVERSITY JURISDICTION—CLASS **ACTION FAIRNESS ACT)**



TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 and 1446, Defendant AT&T Mobility LLC ("ATTM") hereby removes to this Court the state-court action described below.¹

STATEMENT OF JURISDICTION

This is a civil action over which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, and 1441, and is one that may be removed to this Court by ATTM, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441 and 1332(d)(2)(A) for the reasons below.²

GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL

- 1. On December 3, 2009, Plaintiff Donald Sipple filed a purported class action in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of San Diego entitled: *DONALD*SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

 Plaintiff, vs. AT&T Inc. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and Does 1 to 10, Defendant; Case Number 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL.
- 2. On December 24, 2009, Defendants ATTM and AT&T Inc. (collectively, "Defendants") were served with the Summons and Complaint. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), true and correct copies of all process, pleadings, and orders received by or served upon Defendants are attached to this Notice of Removal as Exhibit A.
 - 3. This Notice has been timely filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

ATTM is wholly-owned by defendant AT&T Inc., which is the only publicly held corporation with a 10% or more ownership interest in AT&T Mobility LLC.

ATTM's relationships with its customers are governed by service contracts that contain agreements to arbitrate. ATTM hereby reserves its right to compel Plaintiff to arbitrate his claims in accordance with his arbitration agreement.

- 4. The California Superior Court for the County of San Diego is located within the Southern District of California. 28 U.S.C. § 84(c)(2). This Notice of Removal is therefore properly filed in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).
- 5. Defendant ATTM asserts two jurisdictional bases for removal. First, this Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, which grants district courts original jurisdiction over cases presenting federal questions. As set forth below, this case "implicate[s] significant federal issues" and is therefore removable under the standards set forth by the Supreme Court in *Grable & Sons Metal Prods.*, *Inc. v. Darue Eng'g & Mfg.*, 545 U.S. 308, 312 (2005). Second, the Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Section 4 of the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA"), 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d), which grants district courts original jurisdiction over putative class actions with more than 100 class members where the aggregate amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million and any member of the class of plaintiffs is a citizen of a state different from any defendant. As set forth below, this action satisfies each of the requirements of Section 1332(d)(2) for original jurisdiction under CAFA.

Federal Question Jurisdiction

- 6. Removal of this case is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1441, because adjudication of Plaintiff's claims will require this Court to resolve substantial, disputed questions of federal law. Thus, this Court may properly hear this action in the exercise of its federal question jurisdiction. See 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 7. "[F]or nearly 100 years," the Supreme Court has recognized that "in certain cases federal-question jurisdiction will lie over state-law claims that implicate significant federal issues." *Grable*, 545 U.S. at 312. This "doctrine captures the commonsense notion that a federal court ought to be able to hear claims recognized under state law that nonetheless turn on substantial questions of federal law, and thus justify resort to the experience, solicitude, and hope

of uniformity that a federal forum offers on federal issues." *Id.* Consequently, where a "state-law claim necessarily raise[s] a stated federal issue, actually disputed and substantial, which a federal forum may entertain without disturbing any congressionally approved balance of federal and state judicial responsibilities," that action may be removed to federal court. *Id.* at 314.

- 8. Here, as in *Grable*, Plaintiff's state law claims "turn on substantial questions of federal law." *Id.* Specifically, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants have collected taxes on internet access in violation of the federal Internet Tax Freedom Act, 47 U.S.C. § 151 note ("ITFA"). Complaint ¶¶ 7-9, 26-27 (referring to statute as "Internet Tax Fairness Act"). The ITFA bars state and local governments from imposing "[t]axes on Internet access." 47 U.S.C. § 151 note § 1101(a)(1). Plaintiff alleges that Defendants have charged him and other putative class members fees that constitute impermissible taxes on internet access. Compl. ¶¶ 9, 26.
- 9. Plaintiff's breach of contract claim is expressly predicated upon Defendants' alleged violation of the ITFA. Count One of Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that "[d]espite the prohibition on state and local fees and taxes imposed by the Internet Tax Fairness Act," Defendants charged him "fees and/or taxes based upon the cost of his internet access," Compl. ¶ 26, and in so doing, "breached [their] contractual obligations to Plaintiff and the putative Class causing him damages in an amount to be proven at the time of trial," id. ¶ 27.
- 10. Plaintiff's unfair competition claim likewise rests upon the allegation that

 Defendants have violated the ITFA. Count Two of Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that Defendants

 violated California Business and Professions Code § 17200 by collecting fees and taxes "that

 were not due" and that were "unlawful," among other things. Compl. ¶ 29.
- 11. Both of these claims turn on the substantial federal question of whether fees and taxes collected by Defendants constitute "taxes on Internet access" within the meaning of the ITFA. Accordingly, although Plaintiff's claims are styled as matters of state law, they are in fact

federal in character. See Lippitt v. Raymond James Fin. Servs., Inc., 340 F.3d 1033, 1041 (9th Cir. 2003) (courts may "delve beyond the face of the state court complaint and find federal question jurisdiction by recharacteriz[ing] a plaintiff's state-law claim as a federal claim") (quoting Precision Pay Phones v. Qwest Communications Corp., 210 F. Supp. 2d 1106, 1112-13 (N.D. Cal. 2002)) (internal quotation marks omitted).

12. By placing squarely at issue Defendants' compliance with the ITFA, Plaintiff raises "an important issue of federal law that sensibly belongs in a federal court." *Grable*, 545 U.S. at 315. The ITFA was enacted to "establish[] a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services." H.R. Rep. No. 105-825, at 1548 (1998) (Conf. Rep.). A federal forum is best suited to the interpretation of the rights and responsibilities created by this national policy. Thus, the Court's exercise of federal question jurisdiction will not "disturb[] any congressionally approved balance of federal and state judicial responsibilities." *Grable*, 545 U.S. at 314.

Diversity Jurisdiction Under CAFA

- Covered Class Action. This action meets CAFA's definition of a class action, which is "any civil action filed under rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or similar State statute or rule of judicial procedure." 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(1)(B), 1435(a) & (b). In paragraph 10 of the Complaint, Plaintiff alleges that this action is "a class action pursuant to the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382 and Civil Code Section 1781(a)."
- 14. Class Action Consisting of More Than 100 Members. The Complaint alleges that "the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members in a single action would be impracticable." Complaint ¶ 17. The Class is defined as "all AT&T customers, past and present, who contracted for internet access and were charged fees and/or taxes based upon the cost of internet access." *Id.* ¶ 11. ATTM provides wireless data plans for well over 100 customers who

use data cards or "smart phone[s]' such as an [iPhone], a Blackberry, or a similar device." Complaint ¶ 6. Indeed, very similar lawsuits filed in federal court by the same plaintiffs' counsel on behalf of other ATTM wireless data service subscribers identify the number of potential class members as in the "hundreds of thousands." Complaint, *Bendian v. AT&T, Inc. and AT&T Mobility, LLC*, No. 09-cv-6100 (D.N.J. Dec. 2, 2009), ¶ 17; *see also, e.g.*, Complaint, *Diethelm v. AT&T Mobility, LLC*, No. 09-cv-2546 (N.D. Ala. Dec. 18, 2009), ¶ 30 (alleging that class includes "thousands of individuals"). Accordingly, the aggregate number of class members is greater than 100 persons, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(5)(B).

- Diversity. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A), at least one member of the putative plaintiff class is a "citizen of a State different from any defendant." Plaintiff Sipple, the named Plaintiff, alleges that he is a "resident of California." Compl. ¶ 1. Defendant ATTM is, and was at the time of the filing of this action, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, with its headquarters and principal place of business in Georgia. Accordingly, Plaintiff is a citizen of a state (California) different from at least one defendant (Delaware and Georgia, *see* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(c), (d)(10)), thus satisfying the diversity requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)(A).
- 16. Amount in Controversy. Under CAFA, the claims of the individual class members are aggregated to determine if the amount in controversy exceeds the required "sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs." 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d)(2), (d)(6); see also Lowdermilk v. US Bank Nat'l Ass'n, 479 F.3d 994, 1004 (9th Cir. 2007). While ATTM denies the claims alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint and further denies that Plaintiff, or any putative class member, is entitled to any monetary or injunctive relief, the amount in controversy here satisfies the jurisdictional threshold, as explained below.

- The Complaint itself is silent as to the amount of damages sought, but given the size of the putative class and the monetary relief sought, the amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs. This action is a putative class action in which Plaintiff alleges that "[d]espite the prohibition on taxation of internet access enacted by the Internet Tax [Freedom] Act, Defendants charge their California customers fees and taxes based upon, in part, the cost of internet access." Complaint ¶ 9. Plaintiff defines the putative class as "all AT&T customers, past and present, who contracted for internet access and were charged fees and/or taxes based upon the cost of internet access." *Id.* ¶ 11. Based on these underlying allegations, Plaintiff claims that Defendants committed breach of contract by violating the Internet Tax Freedom Act (47 U.S.C. § 151 note) and violated the California Unfair Competition Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq.). *Id.* ¶¶ 21-28. Plaintiff demands as relief compensatory damages, restitution, and attorney and paralegal fees, as well as costs and interest. *Id.* pp. 6:15-7:1.
- 18. Based on these allegations in the Complaint, the potential amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million. According to ATTM's records, it assessed substantially more than \$5 million in state and local taxes in connection with wireless data services provided to its California subscribers during 2009, which is within the class period defined by the Complaint. See Compl. ¶ 10. Moreover, very similar lawsuits filed in federal court by the same plaintiffs' counsel on behalf of other ATTM wireless data service subscribers have expressly alleged that the amount in controversy exceeds CAFA's \$5 million threshold. See, e.g., First Amended Complaint, Havron v. AT&T, Inc. and AT&T Mobility, LLC, No. 09-cv-1040 (S.D. Ill. Dec. 18, 2009) (alleging that amount in controversy for Illinois-only class exceeds \$5 million). Accordingly, while ATTM contends that neither Plaintiff nor any other putative class member is

1	entitled to a monetary recovery, the amount placed in controversy by Plaintiff's Complaint			
2	exceeds \$5 million.			
3	·			
4	* * * *			
5	19. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), ATTM is serving Plaintiff with a copy of			
6	a Notice to Plaintiff of Filing of Notice of Removal of Action Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331,			
7	1332, 1441, and 1446. A true and correct copy of that Notice to Plaintiff is attached hereto as			
8	Exhibit B and is incorporated by reference.			
9	20. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), ATTM also is filing in the California Superior			
10	Court for the County of San Diego, and has served the same upon Plaintiff, a Notice to Superior			
11	Court of Filing of Removal of Action Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441, and 1446. A			
12				
13	true and correct copy of that Notice to Superior Court is attached hereto as Exhibit C and			
14	incorporated by reference.			
15				
16	Dated: January 22, 2010 MAYER BROWN LLP .			
17	JOHN NADOLENCO LISA W. CORNEHL			
18	ρ			
19	By: Disa W. Cornell Lisa W. Cornell			
20	Attorneys for Defendant AT&T MOBILITY LLC			
21	AT&T MODILIT I ELC			
22	Of Counsel:			
23	Evan M. Tager Archis A. Parasharami			
24	Elizabeth G. Oyer MAYER BROWN LLP			
25	1999 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006-1101			
26	Telephone: (202) 263-3000 Facsimile: (202) 263-3300			
27	1'acsimile. (202) 203-3300			
28				

SEMMONS . (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

AT&T, INC. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and DOES 1 to 10, inclusive,

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

DONALD SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated,

(SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE) FILED CIVIL RUSINESS OFFICE 1.3 2009 DEC -3 P 1: 14 COUR

SAH DIELO COUNTY, CA

FOR COURT USE ONLY

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. IAVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leves de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): San Diego Superior Court 330 W. Broadway San Diego, CA 92101

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): MORRIS AND ASSOCIATES

Stephen B. Morris (619) 239-1300 444 West C Street, Ste 300

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

DATE:

DEC 0 3 2009

San Diego, CA 92101

D. JOHNSON

Deputy (Adjunto)

(Fecha) (Secretario) (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

(SEAL)	NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1. as an individual defendant. 2. as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):	
	3. On behalf of (specify): At 4 T Mobility LLC CCP 416.60 (minor)	
	under: CCP 416.10 (corporation) CCP 416.60 (minor) CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) CCP 416.70 (conservatee) CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) other (specify):	ion)
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4. by personal delivery on (date):	1 of 1

Clerk, by

Martin Dron ESSENTIAL FORMS" CAST/2009-60103676°CU-BC-CTL

Case 3:10-cv-00184-BTM -RBB Document 1 Filed 01/2	2/10 Page 11 of 30
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name, State Bar number, and address): Stephen B. Morris MORRIS AND ASSOCIATES 444 West C Street, Ste 300	FOR COURT USE ONLY
San Diego, CA 92101 TELEPHONE NO.: (619) 239-1300 FAX NO.: (619) 234-3672 ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff	FILED FICE 13 CIVIL BUSINESS OFFICE 13
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN Diego STREET ADDRESS: 330 W. Broadway MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Diego, CA 92101	2009 DEC -3 P 1: 14
case name: Sipple v. AT&T	SAR DIEGO COUNTY, CA
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET Unlimited Limited (Amount demanded demanded is exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less) COMPLEX Case Designation Counter Joinder Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	CASE NUMBER: 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL JUDGE: DEPT.:
Items 1-6 below must be completed (see instructions on	page 2).
Auto (22) Uninsured motorist (46) Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort Asbestos (04) Product liability (24) Medical matpractice (45) Other PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort Business tort/unfair business practice (07) Civil rights (08) Defamation (13) Fraud (16) Intellectual property (19) Professional negligence (25) Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35) Employment Wrongful termination (36) Other employment (15) Breach of contract/warranty (06) Rule 3.740 collections (09) Other collections (09) Insurance coverage (18) Other contract (37) Real Property Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) Wrongful eviction (33) Other real property (26) Unlawful Detainer Commercial (31) Residential (32) Drugs (38) Judicial Review Asset forfeiture (05) Petition re: arbitration award (11) Writ of mandate (02) Other judicial review (39)	rovisionally Complex Civil Litigation Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403) Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) Construction defect (10) Mass tort (40) Securities litigation (28) Environmental/Toxic tort (30) Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41) Inforcement of Judgment Enforcement of judgment (20) iscellaneous Civil Complaint RICO (27) Other complaint (not specified above) (42) liscellaneous Civil Petition Partnership and corporate governance (21) Other petition (not specified above) (43)
issues that will be time-consuming to resolve in other counties,	vitnesses related actions pending in one or more courts states, or countries, or in a federal court dgment judicial supervision story or injunctive relief c. punitive
Date: December 2, 2009	
Stephen B. Morris (Signature) Stephen B. Morris (Signature)	RE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)
NOTICE Plaintiff must file this cover sheet with the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (exunder the Probate Code, Family Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code). (Cal. Rules of in sanctions. File this cover sheet in addition to any cover sheet required by local court rule. If this case is complex under rule 3.400 et seq. of the California Rules of Court, you must other parties to the action or proceeding.	Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result

Unless this is a collections case under rule 3.740 or a complex case, this cover sheet will be used for statistical purposes only.

.)		
1	Stephen B. Morris (SB# 126192) MORRIS and ASSOCIATES	CIVIL BUSINESS OFFICE 13
2	444 West C Street, Suite 300	1, 1811
3	San Diego, California 92101 Tel: (619) 239-1300 Fax: (619) 234-3672	2009 DEC -3 P 1: 14
4		SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA
5	Edward D. Robertson, Jr. (MO SBN 27183) Mary D. Winter (MO SBN 38328)	2WV Dirag an
6	Anthony L. DeWitt (MO SBN 41612) BARTIMUS, FRICKLETON, ROBERTSON & 715 Swifts Highway	& GORNY, P.C.
7	Jefferson City, MO 65109 Tel: (573) 659-4454	
8	Fax: (573) 659-4460	
9	Harry Huge (D.C. SBN 55640) Theodore Huge (SC SBN 36026)	
10	THE HUGE LAW FIRM LLC 1080 Wisconsin Ave, N.W., Suite 3016	
11	Washington, D.C. 20007 Tel: (202) 965-4672	•
.12	Attorneys for Plaintiff	
13		
14	CUPERIOR COURT OF THE	E CTATE OF CALLEODNIA
15	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	
16	IN AND FOR THE COL	JNTY OF SAN DIEGO
17		
18	DONALD SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of)	CASE NO.37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL
19	himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly) situated,	
20) Plaintiff,)	COMPLAINT FOR:
21	vs.	1. BREACH OF CONTRACT and
22	AT&T, INC. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and) Does 1 to 10,	2. VIOLATION B&P CODE §§17200
23	(
	Defendant)	CLASS ACTION
24	Defendant.)	CLASS ACTION
24 25	Defendant.)	CLASS ACTION
	Defendant.)	CLASS ACTION
25	Defendant.)	CLASS ACTION

Complaint

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- Plaintiff, DONALD SIPPLE, is a resident of California. He is an individual 1. customer of Defendants AT&T, INC, and/or AT&T MOBILITY, LLC (hereinafter collectively "AT&T").
- 2. Defendant AT&T, INC. is a Delaware corporation in good standing and is authorized to do business in California. Defendant AT&T, INC. maintains its principle place of business at 208 S. Akard Street, Dallas, Texas.
- 3. Defendant AT&T MOBILITY, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company in good standing and is authorized to do business in California. AT&T MOBILITY, LLC maintains its principle place of business at 1025 Lenox Park Blvd NE, Suite 5D46, Atlanta, Georgia.
- DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, are, and were at all relevant times hereto. 4. corporations and/or business entities qualified to do business throughout the United States. Each DOE Defendant was the agent, licensee and/or employee of the other Defendants, and each of them, and was at all times herein mentioned acting within the course and scope of such relationship. Each was in some manner responsible for PLAINTIFF's damages, or damage to the putative Class of persons which PLAINTIFF seeks to represent.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 5. DEFENDANTS sell wireless data plans to consumers and businesses by contract on a monthly payment plan. The purchase of a wireless data plan permits purchasers of the plan to obtain access to the internet remotely either on a computer or on a so-called "smart phone" such as an I-Phone, a Blackberry, or a similar device.
- AT&T's wireless data plans are sold to owners of "smart phones" or via data cards. 6. AT&T bills for internet access with a separate line item on the AT&T monthly bill in varying amounts depending on the type of access contracted for. Plaintiff has such a plan and pays AT&T \$30 per month.
- 7. In 1996 the United States Congress passed, and the President approved, the Internet Tax Fairness Act (the "ITFA"). The ITFA, 47 U.S.C. § 151 (1998) as amended, bars state and local government from imposing fees and taxes on internet access. "No State or political

subdivision thereof shall impose any of the following taxes during the period beginning November 1, 2003, and ending November 1, 2014: ... (1) Taxes on Internet access."

- 8. Under the Internet Tax Fairness Act the phrase "internet access" means "a service that enables users to connect to the Internet to access content, information, or other services offered over the Internet; (B) includes the purchase, use or sale of telecommunications by a provider of a service described in subparagraph (A) to the extent such telecommunications are purchased, used or sold.-- (I) to provide such service; or (ii) to otherwise enable users to access content, information or other services offered over the Internet[.]"
- 9. Despite the prohibition on taxation of internet access enacted by the Internet Tax Fairness Act, DEFENDANTS charge their California customers fees and taxes based upon, in part, the cost of internet access.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 10. This action is thus brought, and may properly be maintained, as a class action pursuant to the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure Section 382 and Civil Code Section 1781(a). Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of a Class of all others similarly situated who, within four (4) years prior to the date of filing of this action, entered into a contract with AT&T for the provision of internet access through a smart phone or a wireless data card.
- 11. The Class of persons for whose benefit this case is brought consists of all AT&T customers, past and present, who contracted for internet access and were charged fees and/or taxes based upon the cost of internet access.
- 12. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class because he and all members of the putative Class have sustained damages as a result of AT&T's charging of fees and taxes based upon the cost for internet access.
- 13. There are numerous questions of law and fact common to the Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members, including but not limited to the following:

Sipple v. AT&T

Complaint

- whether AT&T charged Plaintiff and the Class fees and taxes based upon the cost of internet access in violation of the Internet Tax Fairness Act;
- whether AT&T's actions violated California law;
- whether AT&T has been unjustly enriched by its retention of a portion of the tax;
- whether AT&T should be enjoined from collecting fees and taxes based upon the cost of internet access;
- whether AT&T should be required to seek a refund of the fees and taxes paid to California and to return any refund to Plaintiff and the members of the Class.
- 14. All common questions are able to be resolved through the same factual occurrences as specifically and/or generally alleged herein.
- 15. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the members of the Class. Plaintiff has no claims antagonistic to those of the Class. Plaintiff has retained competent and experienced counsel in complex class action litigation. Counsel is committed to the vigorous prosecution of this action.
- 16. The prosecution of separate actions by the Plaintiff and individual members of the Class against the Defendants would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications on the common issues of law and fact related to this action.
- 17. A class action is superior to other methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since the Class is so numerous that joinder of all members in a single action would be impracticable and the repetitive testimony of each Class member at trial would be unnecessary and an inefficient use of judicial resources. Since the practices engaged in are common to all members of the Class, judicial economy would not be served by multiple actions with duplicative and repetitive testimony. Furthermore, as the monetary injury suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation would make it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to them.

14.

- 18. The expense and burden of litigation would substantially impair the ability of the Class members to pursue individual cases to protect their rights. In the absence of a class action, AT&T will retain the benefits of its wrongdoing and will continue to collect fees and taxes improperly.
- 19. The identification of the individual Class members may be effectuated by reference to Defendant's records.
- 20. Plaintiff is aware of no difficulty which will be encountered in the management of this litigation which would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Contract)

- 21. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 20 inclusive, of this Complaint, as though set forth in full herein.
 - 22. AT&T and PLAINTIFF entered into a written contract.
- 23. The written contract is a form contract used by AT&T with all its customers similarly situated to PLAINTIFF.
- 24. The contract between AT&T and Plaintiff permits AT&T to charge for its services including internet access on a monthly basis and permits AT&T to charge PLAINTIFF for all applicable and legally due federal, state and local fees and/or taxes.
- 25. The contract does not permit AT&T to charge for fees and taxes that may not be calculated or billed based upon the cost of internet access. Nevertheless, PLAINTIFF has been required to pay these unlawful charges.
- 26. Despite the prohibition on state and local fees and taxes imposed by the Internet Tax Fairness Act, AT&T charged PLAINTIFF fees and/or taxes based upon the cost of his internet access.
- 27. In doing the acts complained of herein, AT&T breached its contractual obligations to PLAINTIFF and the putative Class causing him damages in an amount to be proven at the time. of trial.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 1 2 (Violation of Business and Professions Code, §17200 et seq.,) 28. 3 Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 27 inclusive, 4 of this Complaint, as though set forth in full herein. 5 29. In failing to inform the Plaintiffs and the Class that it intended to charge them fees and taxes that were not due, and in collecting charges that are unlawful, deceptive and/or unfair, 6 7 AT&T violated Business and Professions Code § 17200. 28. Specifically, in doing the acts complained of herein, AT&T engaged in conduct in 8 contravention of California Law. 9 10 11 **PRAYER** 12 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows: 13 14 ON THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION For money damages; 1. 15 2. For attorney and paralegal fees; 16 3. 17 For prejudgment interest as allowed by law; 4. For costs of suit incurred herein; and 18 19 5. For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper. 20 ON THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 21 22 1. For disgorgement by Defendant of all amounts that have been obtained in 23 connection with any of the deceptive, unfair and/or unlawful business practices 24 alleged herein; 2. 25 For restitution according to proof; 3. For attorney and paralegal fees; 26 27 4. For prejudgment interest as allowed by law; 28 5. For costs of suit incurred herein; and Sipple v. AT&T Complaint

For prejudgment interest as allowed by law; 4. 5. For costs of suit incurred herein; and For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper. 6. Dated: December 2, 2009 MORRIS AND ASSOCIATES by: Attorney for Plaintiff

SUPERIOR COUR	RT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO 330 West Broadway	•
MAILING ADDRESS:	330 West Broadway	
CITY AND ZIP CODE:	San Diego, CA 92101	
BRANCH NAME:	Central	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	: (619) 450-7068	
PLAINTIFF(S) / PI	ETITIONER(S): Donald Sipple	
DEFENDANT(S) /	RESPONDENT(S): AT&T, Inc. et.al.	
SIPPLE VS. AT&	T, INC.	
	NOTICE OF CASE ASSIGNMENT	CASE NUMBER: 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL
L		

Judge: Judith F. Hayes

Department: C-68

COMPLAINT/PETITION FILED: 12/03/2009

CASES ASSIGNED TO THE PROBATE DIVISION ARE NOT REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE CIVIL REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW

IT IS THE DUTY OF EACH PLAINTIFF (AND CROSS-COMPLAINANT) TO SERVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE WITH THE COMPLAINT (AND CROSS-COMPLAINT).

ALL COUNSEL WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SUPERIOR COURT RULES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AS DIVISION II, AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

- **TIME STANDARDS:** The following timeframes apply to general civil cases and must be adhered to unless you have requested and been granted an extension of time. General civil consists of all cases except: Small claims appeals, petitions, and unlawful detainers.
- **COMPLAINTS:** Complaints must be served on all named defendants, and a CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE (SDSC CIV-345) filed within 60 days of filing. This is a mandatory document and may not be substituted by the filing of any other document.
- **DEFENDANT'S APPEARANCE**: Defendant must generally appear within 30 days of service of the complaint. (Plaintiff may stipulate to no more than a 15 day extension which must be in writing and filed with the Court.)
- **DEFAULT:** If the defendant has not generally appeared and no extension has been granted, the plaintiff must request default within 45 days of the filing of the Certificate of Service.

THE COURT ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONSIDER UTILIZING VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO LITIGATION, INCLUDING MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, PRIOR TO THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. MEDIATION SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UNDER THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAMS ACT AND OTHER PROVIDERS. SEE ADR INFORMATION PACKET AND STIPULATION.

YOU MAY ALSO BE ORDERED TO PARTICIPATE IN ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO CCP 1141.10 AT THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE. THE FEE FOR THESE SERVICES WILL BE PAID BY THE COURT IF ALL PARTIES HAVE APPEARED IN THE CASE AND THE COURT ORDERS THE CASE TO ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO CCP 1141.10. THE CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE WILL BE CANCELLED IF YOU FILE FORM SDSC CIV-359 PRIOR TO THAT HEARING

31M -RBB Dacument 1 Filed 01/2

1	MAYER BROWN LLP JOHN NADOLENCO (SBN 181128)	
2	jnadolenco@mayerbrown.com LISA W. CORNEHL (SBN 232733)	
3	lcornehl@mayerbrown.com 350 South Grand Avenue, 25th Floor	
4	Los Angeles, CA 90071-1503 Telephone: (213) 229-9500	
5	Facsimile: (213) 625-0248	
6	Attorneys for Defendant AT&T MOBILITY LLC	
7	AT&T MOBILITY LLC	
8	UNITED STATES I	DISTRICT COURT
9	SOUTHERN DISTRIC	CT OF CALIFORNIA
10		
11		Case No.
12	DONALD SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly	Cal. State Court Case No. 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL
13	situated,	NOTICE TO PLAINTIFF OF FILING
14	Plaintiffs,	OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§
15	V.	1331, 1332, 1441 AND 1446
16	AT&T, INC. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and DOES 1 to 10,	(FEDERAL QUESTION AND DIVERSITY JURISDICTION—CLASS
17	Defendants.	ACTION FAIRNESS ACT)
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NOTICE TO PLAINTIFF OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

	1				
1	TO PLAINTIFF DONALD SIPPLE AND HIS ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:				
2	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), on January 22, 2010,				
3	Defendant AT&T Mobility LLC ("ATTM") filed a Notice of Removal of Action Pursuant to 28				
4	U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 and 1446 (I	U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 and 1446 (Federal Question Jurisdiction and Diversity			
5	Jurisdiction—Class Action Fairness Act) in the United States District Court for the Southern				
6	District of California.	of the Chited States District Court for the Southern			
7	District of Camorina.				
8	Dated: January 22, 2010	MAYER BROWN LLP			
9		JOHN NADOLENCO LISA W. CORNEHL			
10		By: Lisa W. Come hel			
12		Lisa W. Cornehl Attorneys for Defendant			
13		AT&T MOBILITY LLC			
14	Of Counsel:				
15	Evan M. Tager				
16	Archis A. Parasharami Elizabeth G. Oyer MAYER BROWN LLP	•			
17	1999 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006-1101				
18	Telephone: (202) 263-3000 Facsimile: (202) 263-3300				
19	(202) 203 3300				
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1 2 3 4 5	MAYER BROWN LLP JOHN NADOLENCO (SBN 181128) jnadolenco@mayerbrown.com LISA W. CORNEHL (SBN 232733) lcornehl@mayerbrown.com 350 South Grand Avenue, 25th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071-1503 Telephone: (213) 229-9500 Facsimile: (213) 625-0248	
6 7	Attorneys for Defendant AT&T MOBILITY LLC	
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THI	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	FOR THE COUNT	Y OF SAN DIEGO
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	DONALD SIPPLE, an individual, on behalf of himself, and on behalf of all persons similarly situated, Plaintiffs, v. AT&T, INC. and AT&T MOBILITY, LLC and DOES 1 to 10, Defendants.	Case No. 37-2009-00103076-CU-BC-CTL NOTICE TO SUPERIOR COURT OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 AND 1446 (FEDERAL QUESTION AND DIVERSITY JURISDICTION—CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT)
20 21 22 23 24 25 26		
27 ⁻	<u> </u>	
28		
	II	

NOTICE TO SUPERIOR COURT OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

1 TO THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-CAPTIONED COURT: 2 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), on January 22, 3 2010, Defendant AT&T Mobility LLC ("ATTM") filed a Notice of Removal of Action Pursuant 4 to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 and 1446 (Federal Question Jurisdiction and Diversity 5 Jurisdiction—Class Action Fairness Act) in the United States District Court for the Southern 6 District of California, together with a copy of all pleadings and documents obtained from the 7 state court file. 8 9 A true and correct copy of the Notice of Removal (without exhibits) filed with the federal 10 court is attached hereto as Exhibit A and is incorporated herein by reference. 11 Dated: January 22, 2010 MAYER BROWN LLP 12 JOHN NADOLENCO LISA W. CORNEHL 13 14 Lisa W. Cornehl 15 Attorneys for Defendant AT&T MOBILITY LLC 16 17 Of Counsel: 18 Evan M. Tager Archis A. Parasharami 19 Elizabeth G. Over MAYER BROWN LLP 20 1999 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006-1101 21 Telephone: (202) 263-3000 Facsimile: (202) 263-3300 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Elena G. Griffin, declare:

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I am employed in Los Angeles County, California. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within-entitled action. My business address is 350 South Grand Avenue, 25th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90071-1503. On January 22, 2010, I served a copy of the within document(s):

NOTICE TO SUPERIOR COURT OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION PURSUANT TO 28 u.s.c. §§ 1331, 1332, 1441 AND 1446

by transmitting via facsimile the document(s) listed above to the facsimile address(es) set forth below on this date before 5:00 p.m.

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Los Angeles, California addressed as set forth below.

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed UPS envelope and affixing a pre-paid air bill, and causing the envelope to be delivered to a UPS agent for delivery.

Stephen B. Morris, Esq.

MORRIS and ASSOCIATES

444 West C Street, Suite 300

San Diego, CA 92101

X

Tel.: (619) 239-1300

Fax: (619) 234-3672

Harry Huge, Esq.

Theodore Huge, Esq.
THE HUGE LAW FIRM LLC

1080 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Suite 3016

Washington, D.C. 20007

Tel.: (202) 965-4672

Edward D. Robertson, Jr., Esq.

19 Mary D. Winter, Esq.

Anthony L. DeWitt, Esq.

²⁰ BARTIMUS, FRICKLETON, ROBERTSON

& GORNEY, P.C.

715 Swifts Highway

Jefferson City, MO 65109

Tel.: (573) 659-4454

Fax: (573) 659-4460

I am readily familiar with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

Case 3:10-cv-00184_BTM -RBB Document 1 Filed 01/22/10 Page 27 of 30

1	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above				
2	is true and correct.				
3	Executed on January 22, 2010, at Los Angeles, California.				
4			Elena	Britani	
5				Elena G. Griffin	
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PROOF OF SERVICE

₹.JS 44 (Rev. 12/07) (cand rev 1-16-08) 3:10-cv-00184-BT/// TRPB (TOWN RESHEE Ted 01/22/10 Page 28 of 30 The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided , by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO OF THE FORM.) DEFENDANTS I. (a) PLAINTIFFS AT&T Inc. Donald Sipple AT&T Mobility LLC County of Residence of First Listed Defendant First Listed Defendant 7010 JAN (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED. SOUTHERLE Attorneys (If Known) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) John Nadolenco 34 Stephen B. Morris Lisa W. Cornehl 10 MORRIS and ASSOCIATES MAYER BROWN LLP 444 West C Street, Suite 300 350 South Grand Avenue, 25th Floor Tel. (619) 239-1300 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel. (213) 229-9500 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1503 III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (Place an "X" in One Box Only) II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION and One Box for Defendant) (For Diversity Cases Only) DEF Incorporated or Principal Place 4 Citizen of This State Federal Question U.S. Government of Business In This State (U.S. Government Not a Party) Plaintiff 2 Incorporated and Principal Place Citizen of Another State 4 Diversity U.S. Government of Business In Another State (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) Defendant 6 Foreign Nation Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) OTHER STATUTES BANKKRUPCY FORFEITURE/PENALTY TORTS CONTRACT 400 State Reapportionment PERSONAL INJURY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 610 Agriculture PERSONAL INJURY 110 Insurance 423 Withdrawal 410 Antitrust 620 Other Food & Drug 362 Personal Injury --310 Airplane 120 Marine 28 USC 157 430 Banks and Banking Med. Malpractice 625 Drug Related Seizure 315 Airplane Product 130 Miller Act of Property 21 USC 881 PROPERTY RIGHTS 450 Commerce 365 Personal Injury -Liability 140 Negotiable Instrument Product Liability 630 Liquor Laws 460 Deportation 820 Copyrights 320 Assault, Libel & 150 Recovery of Overpayment 368 Asbestos Personal 640 R.R. & Truck 470 Racketeer Influenced and Slander 830 Patent & Enforcement of Judgment Injury Product 650 Airline Regs. Corrupt Organizations 330 Federal Employers' 151 Medicare Act 840 Trademark Liability 480 Consumer Credit 660 Occupational Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY 152 Recovery of Defaulted Safety/Health 490 Cable/Sat TV 340 Marine Student Loans 370 Other Fraud 690 Other 810 Selective Service (Excl. Veterans) 345 Marine Product SOCIAL SECURITY 371 Truth in Lending LABOR 850 Securities/Commodities 153 Recovery of Overpayment Liability 861 HIA (1395ff) 380 Other Personal 710 Fair Labor Standards of Veteran's Benefits Exchange 350 Motor Vehicle Property Damage 862 Black Lung (923) Act 875 Customer Challenge 160 Stockholders' Suits 355 Motor Vehicle 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 385 Property Damage 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 12 USC 3410 190 Other Contract Product Liability Product Liability 730 Labor/Mgmt Reporting 864 SSID Title XVI 890 Other Statutory Actions 195 Contract Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury & Disclosure Act 891 Agricultural Acts 865 RSI (405(g)) 196 Franchise 740 Railway Labor Act 892 Economic Stabilization Act PRISONER FEDERAL TAX SUITS 790 Other Labor Litigation CIVIL RIGHTS REAL PROPERTY **PETITIONS** 893 Environmental Matters 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff 894 Energy Allocation Act 510 Motions to Vacate 441 Voting 210 Land Condemnation Security Act or Defendant) Sentence 895 Freedom of Information **IMMIGRATION** 442 Employment 220 Foreclosure Habeas Corpus: 871 IRS-Third Party Act 443 Housing 462 Naturalization Application 26 USC 7609 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 530 General 900 Appeal of Fee Accommodations 463 Habeas Corpus -Determination 240 Torts to Land 535 Death Penalty 444 Welfare Alien Detainee Under Equal Access 245 Tort Product Liability 445 Amer, w/Disabilities 540 Mandamus & Other to Justice 465 Other Immigration Employment 290 All Other Real Property __ 950 Constitutionality of Actions 550 Civil Rights 46 Amer, w/Disabilities State Statutes 555 Prison Condition Other 440 Other Civil Rights Appeal to District Transferred from (Place an "X" in One Box Only) V. ORIGIN 7 Judge from 5 another district 6 Multidistrict 4 Reinstated or Remanded from Magistrate (specify) 2 Removed from Original Litigation Reopened Appellate Court Judgment State Court Proceeding Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 28 USC 1334 VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause: Breach of Contract/Unfair Trade Practices CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION VII. REQUESTED IN Yes No JURY DEMAND: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 **COMPLAINT:** DOCKET NUMBER VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instruction): JUDGE IF ANY GNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD DATE 1/22/2010 FOR OFFICE USE ON MAG. JUDGEAmerican LegalNet, Inc. www.FormsWorkflow.com TUDGE

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 12/07)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive
- Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

- Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 unless diversity. Example: Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. VII.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers $\cdots \in \{q\}_{p}\}$ and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

American LegalNet, Inc. www.FormsWorkflow.com

នាទី តែម៉ែ

Court Name: USDC California Southern

Division: 3

Receipt Number: CASO09448

Cashier ID: mbain

Transaction Date: 01/22/2010 Payer Name: TIME MACHINE NETWORK

CIVIL FILING FEE

For: SIPPLE V AT AND T

Case/Party: D-CAS-3-10-CV-000184-001

Amount: \$350.00

CHECK

Check/Money Order Num: FF76269

Amt Tendered: \$350.00

Total Due:

\$350.00

Total Tendered: \$350.00

Change Amt: \$0.00

There will be a fee of \$45.00 charged for any returned check.